

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 NEA-10 IOE-00 SS-20 L-03 EB-11

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2303

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, TU, UN
SUBJ: TURKISH OPIUM BAN

REF: A) STATE 70343; B) ANKARA 2641; C) GENEVA 2180

1. MISSOFF SAW MARTENS APRIL 10 FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING HIS
UPCOMING VISIT TO TURKEY.

2. MARTENS SAID HE WISHED AT OUTSET TO EXPLAIN WHY HE HAD DECIDED,
FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH WINSPEARE, TO GO TO ANKARA. PURPOSE
WAS TO INFORM HIMSELF DIRECTLY ON CURRENT STATUS TURKISH POSITION
REGARDING OPIUM BAND TO DEMONSTRATEUN'S INTEREST AND CONCERN.
ADDED THAT DND IS RECEIVING QUERIES ABOUT TURKISH POSITION FROM
OTHER COUNTRIES IN AREA WITH WHOM UNFDAC IS NEGOTIATING DRUG
CONTROL PROGRAMS AS WELL AS FROM OTHER INTERNATION ORGANIZATIONS
AND THE PRESS. HE AND WINSPEARE FELT IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT
IT WOULD BE "IRRERSONSIBLE" FOR DND TO REMAIN UNINFORMED ABOUT
SITUATION IN TURKEY AND BE UNABLE TO RESPOND TO QUERIES. IN RESPONSE
MISSOFF'S QUESTION, MARTENS SAID HE DID NOT INTEND IN HIS
TALKS WITH TURKS TO ARGUE FOR BAN'S MAINTENANCE, ALTHOUGH HE
RECOGNIZED ITS BENEFICIAL EFFECTS AND RAMIFICATIONS ITS BEING
LIFTED COULD HAVE ON DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS. HE SAID POINT IS
THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT NEW TURKISH AUTHORITIES ARE MORE
INTERESTED IN UN ROLE IN DRUG CONTROL FIELD THAN PRECEDING
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GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN. AS HE SAW IT, ESSENTIAL THING FOR HIM DO

ON THIS FIRST VISIT WAS TO ESTABLISH CONTACT AND FURTHER CONFIDENCE WHICH NEW AUTHORITIES ALREADY HAVE IN HIM PERSONALLY. HOWEVER, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO DECISION AS SUCH BY COMPETENT UN ORGANS CONCERNING THE BAN, HE AGREED THAT UN'S POSTURE TOWARD BAN HAD TO BE POSITIVE.

3. MISOFF REVIEWED CURRENT SITUATION ON BAN, STRESSED USG'S STRONG INTEREST IN BAN'S MAINTENANCE AND REASONS THEREFOR. SHE SAID SHE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TELL MARTENS THAT USG IS CONCERNED THAT FOR SENIOR UN DRUG OFFICIAL GO TO TURKEY AT PRESENT JUNCTURE AND FAIL STRONGLY TO SUPPORT BAN'S MAINTENANCE COULD BE HIGHLY PREJUDICIAL AND COULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE WHOLE DRUG CONTROL EFFORT IN ME AND BEYOND. SHE NOTED THAT FOR HIM REMAIN SILENT ON THIS MATTER WOULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD BY TURKISH OFFICIALS AND LIKELY BE INTERPRETED AS INDIFFERENCE ON UN'S PART OR EVEN AS CONSENT J (#) TUN'S BEING LIFTED. FURTHERMORE MARTENS HIMSELF WAS IN PARTICULARLY AWKWARD POSITION SINCE TURKISH AUTHORITIES AND POSSIBLY EVEN PRESS CIRCLES WOULD HAVE BEFORE THEM SUMMARY RECORD OF CND MEETING WHICH STATES THAT HE CITED RESUMPTION OF PRODUCTION AS AVAILABLE OPTION TO MEET WORLD CODEINE REQUIREMENTS. RE QUESTION OF UN POLICY, SHE NOTED THAT NO SPEAKER HAD SUPPORTED THIS OPTION AND THAT CND CONSENSUS IN ESSENCE HAD BEEN THAT CONTROL WAS PARAMOUNT AND (#) UTOZVBCHHFS SHOUKHUMUXDJOUND TO OBTAIN NEEDED NARCOTIC RAW MATERIALS BY INCREASING YIELD WITHOUT EXPANDING POPPY CULTIVATION ACERAGE. FURTHERMORE, THROUGHOUT CND SESSION ANY SPEAKER WHO REFERRED TO TURKISH BAN STRESSED ITS BENEFICIAL EFFECT AND AMONG SPEAKERS SUPPORTING BAN WAS INCB WHICH WAS RESPONSIBLE TREATY ORGAN IN MATTERS OF THIS KIND. MISOFF ALSO OBSERVED THAT IT SEEMED APPROPRIATE IN ANY CASE FOR UN TO PROCEED ON BASIS THAT UNLESS AND UNTIL IT IS NOTIFIED TO CONTRARY BY GOT, TURKISH POSITION ON BAN REMAINS THE SAME. FURTHERMORE, INSOFAR AS QUERIES RECEIVED BY DND RE TURKISH POSITION WERE CONCERNED, IT SEEMED APPROPRIATE THAT THESE BE REFERRED TO TURKISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND IN CASE OF ORGANIZATIONS/MISSIONS/PRESS HERE IN GENEVA TO TURKISH MISSION.

4. THERE ENSUED EXTENSIVE AND AT TIMES DIFFICULT EXCHANGE DURING WHICH MARTENS MODIFIED HIS POSITION TO EXTENT OF SAYING THAT WHILE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT WOULD BE TO FACT-FIND AND ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH TURKISH AUTHORITIES, HE MIGHT, IF SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY AROSE, CONFIDENTIAL

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MAKE SUBTLE REFERENCE TO NEED TO MAINTAIN THE BAN. HOWEVER, HE WOULD HAVE FEEL HIS WAY AND DECIDE THIS ON-THE-SPOT.

5. THREE HOURS LATER MARTENS TELEPHONED TO SAY THAT HE HAD BEEN THINKING ABOUT USG'S CONCERNS AND WISHED TO CLARIFY HIS POSITION. PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT TO ANKARA WOULD NOT ONLY BE TO GATHER INFORMATION. HE INTENDED "TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY TO MAKE A POINT OF SHOWING

ANXIETY AND CONERN ABOUT ANY GOT DECISION AFFECTING THE BAN BECAUSE OF REPERCUSSIONS IT COULD HAVE ON OTHER PROGRAMS UN IS NOW NEGOTIATING WITH OTHER COUNTRIES IN AREA AND ON ENTIRE UN DRUG CONTROL EFFORT". THIS, HE SAID, CAN BE REGARDED AS HIS "MAIN OBJECTIVE".

6. SUBSEQUENT TO PREPARATION OF FOREGOING WE LEARNED THAT CERTAIN OF MARTENS' ADVISERS, NOTABLY MICUTA, HAVE BEEN URGING MARTENS NOT PROCEED WITH VISIT ON GROUND THAT RISK ADVERSE EFFECT ON BAN AND ON UN DRUG CONTROL EFFORT IS TOO HIGH. HOWEVER, MARTENS HAS TURNED DOWN THIS ADVICE. MILLER

NOTE BY OC/T: GENEVA 2303 PARA 3 AS RECEIVED. CORRECTIONS TO FOLLOW.

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